

Gorin 2000-0109

Remarks

Reconsideration of remaining claims 1, 5-15 and 19-27 is respectfully requested.

In the Office action dated April 29, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 6-15 and 20-27 under 35 USC § 102(e). Claims 3, 5, 17 and 19 were "objected to" by the Examiner as depending from a rejected base claim, but considered as containing allowable subject matter.

In response, applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 3, and likewise amended independent claim 15 to include the limitations of claim 17 (claims 3 and 17 having now been cancelled). Applicants believe that with these amendments the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicants thus respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the outstanding rejection and find amended independent claims 1 and 15, as well as remaining dependent claims 5-14 and 19-27 to be in condition for allowance.

If for some reason or other the Examiner does not agree that the case is ready to issue, and that an interview or telephone conversation would further the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Louis Gorin et al.

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